CLAIMS

1. A recording medium comprising:

a video stream; and

5   a plurality of pieces of copy control information, wherein

the video stream contains video composed of a plurality of frame images, and

the plurality of pieces of copy control information

10   indicates different restrictions on recording of a video signal that is converted from the frame images, the restrictions differing depending on quality levels at which the video signal is output.

15   2. The recording medium according to Claim 1, wherein

each quality level shows a resolution level of the frame images represented by the video signal, and

the copy control information corresponding to a low-resolution level indicates less strict restriction

20   than restriction indicated by the copy control information corresponding to a high-resolution level.

3. The recording medium according to Claim 2, wherein

the copy control information corresponding to the

25   low-resolution level indicates permission to record the video signal only a single time.

4. The recording medium according to Claim 1, comprising:

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the plurality of video streams, wherein

each piece of copy control information indicates a restriction on recording of a video signal resulting from playback of one of the video streams.

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5. The recording medium according to Claim 1, further comprising:

playback section information defining a playback section of the video stream, wherein

10   each piece of copy control information indicates a restriction on recording of a video signal resulting from playback of the playback section.

6. The recording medium according to Claim 1, further

15   comprising:

payback path information defining a playback path of the video stream, wherein

each piece of copy control information indicates a restriction on recording of a video signal resulting from

20   playback of the video stream following the playback path.

7. A playback device for executing playback of video composed of a plurality of frame images, comprising:

a read unit operable to read a video stream from a

25   recording medium;

a frame memory;

a video decoder operable to decode the video stream so as to sequentially obtain and write the frame images

on the frame memory; and

an output unit operable to generate a video signal from the frame images sequentially written on the frame memory and output the video signal, wherein

5   the recording medium has a plurality of pieces of copy control information recorded thereon, and

the output unit includes an assigning subunit operable to assign, to the video signal, one of the plurality of pieces of copy control information corresponding to a

10   quality level of the video signal.

8. The playback device according to Claim 7, wherein each quality level shows a resolution level of the frame images, and

15   the assigning subunit is operable to assign copy control information indicating recording prohibition to the video signal of a high-resolution level, and copy control information indicating recording permission to the video signal of a low-resolution level.

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9. The playback device according to Claim 7, further comprising:

a connection unit operable to establish connection with a secure recording medium; and

25   a judgment unit operable to judge whether the secure recording medium stores therein a certificate of a right to loosen copy control, wherein

the assigning subunit is operable to assign the copy

control information only when the judgment unit judges that the certificate is stored.

10. The playback device according to Claim 7, wherein
    the recording medium stores the plurality of video streams,
    each of the plurality of pieces of copy control information is associated with one of the video streams, and
    the copy control information assigned by the assigning subunit is selected from among pieces of copy control information which are associated with a video stream currently played.

11. The playback device according to Claim 7, wherein
    the recording medium stores therein a plurality of pieces of playback section information each defining a playback section of the video stream, and
    the copy control information assigned by the assigning subunit is selected from among pieces of copy control information which are associated with a playback section currently played.

12. The playback device according to Claim 7, wherein
    the recording medium stores therein a plurality of pieces of playback path information each defining a playback path of the video stream, and
    the copy control information assigned by the assigning

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subunit is selected from among pieces of copy control information which are associated with a playback path currently played.

5   13. A program for casing a computer to execute playback of video composed of a plurality of frame images, the program comprising code operable to cause the computer to perform:

a reading step of reading a video stream from a recording medium;

10   a decoding step of decoding the video stream so as to sequentially obtain and written the frame images on a frame memory of the computer; and

an output step of generating a video signal from the frame images sequentially written on the frame memory and

15   outputting the video signal, wherein

the recording medium stores therein a plurality of pieces of copy control information, and

in the output step, the video signal is assigned one of the plurality of pieces of copy control information that

20   corresponds to a quality level of the video signal.

14. A playback method for executing playback of video composed of a plurality of frame images, comprising:

a reading step of reading a video stream from a recording

25   medium;

a decoding step of decoding the video stream so as to sequentially obtain and write the frame images on a frame memory of a computer; and

an output step of generating a video signal from the frame images sequentially written on the frame memory and outputting the video signal, wherein

the recording medium stores therein a plurality of

5   pieces of copy control information, and

in the output step, the video signal is assigned one of the plurality of pieces of copy control information that corresponds to a quality level of the video signal.